Availability of Medicines and Tinctures in CGHS (Homoeopathic) units in Delhi

1692. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the essential medicines and Mother Tinctures are not available in the CGHS Homoeopathic dispensaries/units in Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of medicines and Mother Tinctures which are not available with the CGHS Homoeopathic dispensaries/units in Delhi;

(c) since when these medicines are not available and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to make available all medicines and Mother Tinctures in CGHS dispensaries/units in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Most of the essential medicines and mother tinctures are available in CGHS Homoeopathic dispensaries/units in Delhi.

Consumption of Cigarettes/Tobacco

1693. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made with regard to the rise/decrease in the consumption of cigarettes/tobacco among the male and female smokers both in the rural and urban areas in the country during the last five years;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of rise/decrease and how does the cigarette/tobacco habits in the country compare with those in the developing countries;

(c) what is the percentage of smokers anticipated to rise by the turn of the century with the present rate of cigarette/tobacco consumption in the country; and

(d) what measures, apart from the mandatory warning on the cigarette packets, have been taken by Government so far to discourage smoking habits and the manner in which Government propose to check this growing habit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c) No country-wise survey of smoking trends has been carried out so far. However, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay conducted surveys on tobacco habits in the districts of Ernakulam (Kerala), Srikakulam (Andhra Pradesh) and Bhavnagar (Gujarat). As per this survey, the prevalence of tobacco habit varied from 18 per cent to 86 per cent among males and from 8 per cent to 67 per cent among females.

(d) The measures undertaken to reduce the habit of smoking are:—

(a) educating the masses against use of tobacco products by highlighting its evil effects on health like cardio-vascular diseases, hypertension, oral and lung cancer etc.

(b) printing of statutory warning on cigarette packets, hoarding etc.

Measures proposed to be undertaken are:-

(c) ban on advertisement of cigarette and tobacco products on mass media, sports stadia etc.

(d) ban on smoking in public places, meetings, seminars etc.

Requirement of Floppy Discs

1694. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated annual requirement of floppy discs in India for the current year as well as for next two years;

(b) what is the indigenous capacity in the country as against this;

(c) how it is proposed to meet the shortage please;

(d) whether Government are aware that a sizeable quantity of floppy discs are smuggled into the country; if so, what is the estimated annual smuggling of floppy discs in the country; and

(e) what are the details of measures proposed to be taken to check smuggling of floppy discs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The estimated requirement of floppy diskettes in India for the current year is around 6 to 7 million nos. The estimated requirements for the next 2 years will be around 8.5 to 10 million and 12 to 14 million nos. respectively.

(b) The indigenous capacity is 22 million nos. per annum.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Available reports and seizures made do not indicate smuggling of Floppy Diskettes into India on any significant scale. However, the anti-smuggling agencies are keeping constant vigil in this regard for contraband goods including Floppy Diskettes.

Monograph of Cineraria Maritima Succus

1695. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India containing a monograph of Cineraria Maritima Succus has been notified as official some time in 1989; and

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Cineraria Maritima Succus manufactured in the country for CGHS supply was required to comply with the standards in Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia before 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India monograph of Cineraria Maritima Succus stands notified by Birtue of entry 4A of the Second Schedule to Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 Notification No. X.11014|3|77|DMS&PFA dated the 6th June, 1978. In order to clarify the matter, Drugs Controller of India, on 2nd May, 1989 issued a circular letter specifying the enforcement of this Volume *w.e.f.* 1st August, 1988, However, this was of a clarificatory nature and not a statutory requirement.

(b) Yes, Sir. From the date of publication of Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India.

Taking over of Scindia Workshop by Mazagaon Docks Ltd.

1696. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mazagaon Docks Limited; a defence undertaking, is taking over Scindia Workshop Limited; and

(b) if so, whether all employees of Scindia Workshop would be absorbed in Mazagaon Docks Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Opinion on Prevalence of Certain Diseases

1697. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 111 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 1989 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DGHS was of the opinion that drugs for diseases like psychosis, psychoneurosis and other psy-